

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The composition of claim ~~[[3]]~~5 wherein the higher frequencies of oligoribonucleotides (ORNs) occurring in microbes is at least 10 fold more frequent.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): ~~The~~A composition of ~~claim 3~~ wherein the higher frequencies of ORNs for modulating and/or stimulating the immune system of an animal ~~comprises~~comprising ~~an~~ oligoribonucleotides (ORNs) from bacteria, each ORN having a molecular weight less than 10kDa, and wherein said oligoribonucleotides (ORNs) occur only in microbes or at frequencies higher than in mammalian cells, comprising a base sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO: 1 (AGAGGGUCGCACGCGGUA),

SEQ ID NO: 2 (CGUACUGCAACUCG) or

SEQ ID NO: 3 (AGGUACAGCCAGGACUACGA) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claims 6-32 (Cancelled).